

Contact: Shannon O'Brien
202-225-2671

Carnahan is a member of the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure's Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment, and is a co-sponsor of WRDA.

(WASHINGTON, DC) -- On Tuesday, Congressman Russ Carnahan (MO-3) voted to override the President's veto of H.R. 1495, the Water Resources Development Act of 2007 (WRDA). Today, the Senate also voted to override the President's veto, thus enacting WRDA into law over the President's opposition. Carnahan released the following statement.

"I am proud to vote to override the President's veto. Clearly the President was wrong; this signals an important shift as a bipartisan Congress exercises its Constitutional authority."

"The WRDA bill is a double win for Missouri's economy and environment. It is essential to the continued commercial and recreational use of our nation's waterways. This investment will assure that farmers can effectively transport their crops by barge and provides historic levels of ecosystem restoration for America's rivers."

-Congressman Russ Carnahan

Due to Carnahan's efforts, the following projects are included in the bill:

- Authorizes \$2 billion for the construction of seven new 1200 foot locks on the Upper Mississippi and Illinois Waterway System. This authorization was one of the top three priorities in the bill, alongside the restoration of the Gulf Coast and the Florida Everglades.
- Authorizes \$1.7 billion for a historic critical ecosystem restoration program on the Upper Mississippi and Illinois Waterway System.

- Authorizes \$35 million for combined sewer overflow (CSO) elimination in St. Louis City and County. CSOs are caused by outdated sewer systems that carry domestic sewage and industrial wastewater. This authorization will allow the Army Corps of Engineers and the Metropolitan Sewer District to continue their work in addressing the CSO problem.
- Authorizes \$13 million to continue flood control projects in Festus and Crystal City. This is an increase from the \$12 million amount included in the original version of the bill passed by the House this year.
- Authorizes \$10 million for ecosystem restoration, recreation and flood control related to the St. Louis Regional Greenways project. This project includes environmental and aquatic restoration and increased public access to the Mississippi River throughout St. Louis City and County.
- Authorizes work that Metropolitan Sewer District has already completed for River Des Peres flood control to be credited towards the non-federal share of the project's cost. This project includes channel enlargement and stabilization and a recreational trail through Brentwood, Maplewood, Rock Hill and Webster Groves.